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Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea

Revised budget for the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

Report of the Secretary-General

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Summary

By its resolution 1827 (2008), the Security Council decided to terminate the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) effective on 31 July 2008.

The initial budget for UNMEE for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 was contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the Mission dated 22 April 2008 (A/62/811) and amounted to $100,367,400 gross ($98,027,600 net).

The General Assembly, in its resolution 62/259, appropriated for the maintenance of UNMEE for the 2008/09 financial period the amount of $100,367,400 gross ($98,027,600 net) and decided to apportion among Member States the amount of $50,183,700 gross ($49,013,800 net) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2008, subject to the extension of the Mission's mandate by the Security Council. The Assembly also endorsed the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report on the financing of UNMEE dated 4 June 2008 (A/62/781/Add.17 and Corr.1) that the Secretary-General be requested to submit a report to the General Assembly no later than 30 November 2008, on progress in the implementation of the budget, in order to provide for a revised appropriation and a further assessment, if required.

In view of the termination of the Mission's mandate on 31 July 2008, the present report contains the revised budget for UNMEE for the financial period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, which amounts to $37,016,400 gross ($35,905,000 net).

The budget provides for the phased repatriation of 83 military observers, 242 military contingent personnel, 143 international staff (including 1 temporary Field Service position), 193 national staff and 60 United Nations Volunteers, as well as for the administrative liquidation of the Mission during the six-month period from 1 August 2008 to 31 January 2009.

In view of the cessation of the Mission's mandated substantive and military activities on 31 July 2008, the total resource requirements for UNMEE for the financial period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 have been linked to the Mission's objective to accomplish effective and efficient administrative liquidation of the Mission by 31 January 2009.

The explanations of variances in resource levels, both human and financial resources, have been linked, where applicable, to specific outputs planned by the Mission as indicated in the support component frameworks.

Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July to 30 June.)

Category	*Expenditures (2007/08)*	*Apportionment (2008/09)*	*Revised cost estimates (2008/09)*	*Variance*	
				Amount	*Percentage*
Military and police personnel	46 555.8	41 475.8	5 543.1	(35 932.7)	(86.6)
Civilian personnel	24 557.2	20 120.0	10 171.5	(9 948.5)	(49.4)
Operational costs	34 972.2	38 771.6	21 301.8	(17 469.8)	(45.1)
Gross requirements	**106 085.2**	**100 367.4**	**37 016.4**	**(63 351.0)**	**(63.1)**
Staff assessment income	2 839.2	2 339.8	1 111.4	(1 228.4)	(52.5)
Net requirements	**103 246.0**	**98 027.6**	**35 905.0**	**(62 122.6)**	**(63.4)**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**106 085.2**	**100 367.4**	**37 016.4**	**(63 351.0)**	**(63.1)**

Human resources

		Actual (July-October 2008) and planned (November 2008-January 2009)		
	Approved[a]	*1 July 2008*	*31 October 2008*	*1-31 January 2009*
Military observers	230	83	—	—
Military contingents	1 470	242	—	—
International staff	176	142	108	92
National staff[b]	219	193	130	89
United Nations Volunteers	68	60	38	24
Temporary positions[c]				
International staff	1	1	—	—
National staff	—	—	—	—

[a] Represents the highest level of authorized strength.
[b] Includes National Officers and national General Service staff.
[c] Funded under general temporary assistance.

The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are set out in section IV of the present report.

I. Mandate and planned results

A. Overall

1. The mandate of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) was established by the Security Council in its resolutions 1312 (2000) and 1320 (2000). In its resolution 1798 (2008), the Council extended the mandate of UNMEE for a period of six months, until 31 July 2008. By its subsequent resolution 1827 (2008), the Council decided to terminate the mandate of the Mission effective 31 July 2008.

2. The initial budget for UNMEE for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 was contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the Mission dated 22 April 2008 (A/62/811) and amounted to $100,367,400 gross ($98,027,600 net).

3. On the basis of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report on the financing of UNMEE dated 4 June 2008 (A/62/781/Add.17 and Corr.1), the General Assembly, in its resolution 62/259, appropriated for the maintenance of UNMEE for the 2008/09 financial period the amount of $100,367,400 gross ($98,027,600 net) and decided to apportion among Member States the amount of $50,183,700 gross ($49,013,800 net) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2008, subject to the extension of the Mission's mandate by the Security Council. Pursuant to paragraph 15 of the resolution, an amount of $8,750,833 gross ($8,519,526 net) was assessed on Member States for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 to 31 July 2008.

4. In its resolution 62/259, the General Assembly also endorsed the recommendation of the Advisory Committee that the Secretary-General be requested to submit a report to the General Assembly no later than 30 November 2008 on progress in the implementation of the budget, in order to provide for a revised appropriation and a further assessment, if required.

5. In view of the termination by the Security Council of the Mission's mandate on 31 July 2008, the present report contains the revised budget for UNMEE for the financial period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, which amounts to $37,016,400 gross ($35,905,000 net).

6. The revised budget takes into account the temporary relocation and subsequent repatriation to their home countries of the Mission's military contingent personnel that commenced during the 2007/08 financial period owing to restrictions imposed on UNMEE by the Eritrean authorities. Pursuant to an exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2008/368 dated 5 June 2008 and S/2008/427 dated 30 June 2008, respectively), the temporarily relocated military contingent personnel are considered as repatriated effective 5 June 2008. The revised budget also reflects the actual incumbency of the approved international and national staff posts as at 30 June 2008.

7. Accordingly, the revised budget provides for the phased repatriation of military personnel present in the Mission area as at 1 July 2008 (83 military observers and 242 military contingent personnel), the planned reduction of 143 international staff (including 1 temporary Field Service position) and 60 United

Nations Volunteers and the separation of 193 national staff encumbering the approved posts as at the same date, as well as for the administrative liquidation of the Mission during the six-month period from 1 August 2008 to 31 January 2009.

8. In view of the cessation of the Mission's substantive and military activities on 31 July 2008, the total resource requirements for UNMEE for the financial period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 have been linked to the Mission's objective to accomplish effective and efficient administrative liquidation of the Mission by 31 January 2009. The explanations of variances in resource levels, both human and financial resources, have been linked, where applicable, to specific outputs planned by the Mission as indicated in the support component frameworks.

B. Planning assumptions and mission support initiatives

9. Owing to the termination of the UNMEE mandate effective 31 July 2008, a range of pre-liquidation activities remained outstanding as at 31 July 2008, as follows: (a) the closing of substantive offices and repatriation of substantive staff; (b) the repatriation of military personnel and contingent-owned equipment still deployed in the Mission area; (c) the finalization in consultation with United Nations Headquarters of the assets disposal plan, including destination of non-expendable and expendable assets to be transferred to other peacekeeping operations; (d) the conclusion of agreements with the two host countries regarding the disposal of the Mission's assets, including their export from the two countries, donation to host Governments and the sale of assets in each country; and (e) the development of a plan for the placement of substantive and support staff in other peacekeeping missions.

10. The Mission's administrative liquidation planning assumptions are predicated on the cooperation of the host Governments in the expeditious completion of the liquidation activities while taking into account that UNMEE continues to operate under restrictions imposed by the Eritrean authorities, including the restrictions on the freedom of movement of UNMEE personnel, the ban on staff members from certain nationalities and the ban on United Nations helicopter flights in Eritrean airspace, the ban on United Nations flights between Addis Ababa and Asmara, as well as restrictions on the supply of diesel fuel to the Mission in Eritrea. The prompt issuance of the entry visas by the Eritrean authorities for UNMEE and other United Nations staff, customs clearances and the authorization of United Nations flights, as well as facilitating UNMEE access to all sites in Eritrea from which United Nations-owned equipment will need to be recovered, remained an impediment to the administrative liquidation process.

11. With the cessation of mandated substantive and military operations on 31 July 2008, the Mission initiated repatriation of the remaining military observers and the rear party of military contingent personnel required to oversee the repatriation of contingent-owned equipment (completed by 31 October 2008), as well as the administrative closing of substantive offices which was also completed by 31 October 2008, with the commensurate reduction of substantive staff present in the Mission area as at 1 July 2008. At the same time, in order to address and resolve difficulties in the liquidation activities requiring interaction with the senior officials of both countries, a small substantive team led by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (until 30 September 2008) and the Deputy Special Representative

thereafter needs to be maintained until the planned completion of the Mission's administrative liquidation on 31 January 2009 (Head of Office (D-2), a Political Affairs Officer (P-4), 1 General Service staff and 2 national General Service staff).

12. As at 31 October 2008, agreement had been reached with the Government of Ethiopia regarding arrangements for the donation of United Nations assets, subject to the approval by the General Assembly, and the sale in Ethiopia of assets not suitable for transfer to other peacekeeping operations. Discussions as to the possible donation of assets to the Government of Eritrea, also subject to the approval by the General Assembly, were ongoing. The Eritrean authorities have indicated that no local sales of United Nations assets will be permitted in Eritrea. As at the same date, the plan for the disposal of the Mission's assets through their transfer to other peacekeeping operations and to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for future use has been finalized.

13. During the period from 1 to 31 July 2008 and the commencement of administrative liquidation activities from 1 August 2008, the Mission was headed until 30 September 2008 by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General at the Under-Secretary-General level. Thereafter, administrative liquidation activities have been led by the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General at the Assistant Secretary-General level, assisted by the Head of Office at the D-2 level, with their respective offices located in Asmara and Addis Ababa. The Chief of Mission Support at the D-1 level will head the Division of Mission Support until the completion of administrative liquidation activities on 31 January 2009.

Executive direction and management

Table 1
Human resources: executive direction and management

	International staff										
ilian staff	*USG-ASG*	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	***Subtotal***	*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General											
Approved posts 2008/09	1	1	3	—	2	1	—	**8**	1	—	**9**
Proposed deplo ment											
As at 1 July 2008	1	—	2	—	1	1	—	**5**	1	—	**6**
As at 31 October 2008	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**—**	1	—	**1**
1-31 January 2009	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**—**	—	—	**—**

Substantive staff

Table 2
Human resources: substantive staff

Civilian staff	*International staff*								*National staff*	*United Nations Volunteers*	*Total*
	USG-ASG	*D-2-D-1*	*P-5-P-4*	*P-3-P-2*	*Field Service*	*General Service*	*Security Service*	***Subtotal***			
Substantive offices											
Approved posts 2008/09	1	2	12	10	3	4	—	**32**	12	7	**51**
Proposed deployment											
As at 1 July 2008	1	1	8	4	3	4	—	**21**	10	7	**38**
As at 31 October 2008	1	1	5	2	—	1	—	**10**	6	—	**16**
1-31 January 2009	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	**4**	2	—	**6**

14. With the completion of the phased repatriation of substantive staff by 31 October 2008, the Mission's proposed staffing requirements indicated in table 2 above comprise a small number of substantive staff required to support the administrative liquidation process until 31 January 2009 with a view to vigorously pursuing with the respective authorities, at the appropriate diplomatic levels, the necessary arrangements that would facilitate the completion of the liquidation process by 31 January 2009.

Military personnel

Table 3
Human resources: military personnel

Category		*Total*
I.	*Military observers*	
	Approved 2008/09	**230**
	Proposed deployment	
	As at 1 July 2008	**83**
	As at 31 October 2008	—
	1-31 January 2009	—
II.	*Military contingents*	
	Approved 2008/09	**1 470**
	Proposed deployment	
	As at 1 July 2008	**242**
	As at 31 October 2008	—
	1-31 January 2009	—

III. Civilian staff	International staff								National staff	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG-ASG	D-2-D-1	P-5-P-4	P-3-P-2	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal			
Office of the Force Commander											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Planned deployment											
As at 1 July 2008	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
As at 31 October 2008	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-31 January 2009	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

15. With the cessation of mandated military operations on 31 July 2008, the Mission initiated repatriation of the remaining military observers and the rear party of military contingent personnel required to oversee the repatriation of contingent-owned equipment, which was completed by 31 October 2008.

Support component

16. As detailed in the support component frameworks, during the budget period the Mission will provide logistical, administrative and security services to accomplish the objective of effective and efficient completion of the administrative liquidation of the Mission by 31 January 2009. The range of support will comprise all support services, including personnel administration, maintenance of health-care arrangements, maintenance of office and accommodation facilities and their handover, with due regard to environmental concerns, to appropriate authorities, including private owners, information technology and communications, air operations, air and surface transport operations, supply and re-supply operations, as well as provision of security services mission-wide. The outputs presented in the support component frameworks indicate, where applicable, equipment in operation as at 1 July 2008. By 31 January 2009, the Mission will have completed the disposal of its assets in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, subject to the cooperation of the authorities of the two host Governments.

Expected accomplishments	*Indicators of achievement*
1.1 Effective and efficient completion of the administrative liquidation of the Mission	1.1.1 Issuance of handover/takeover certificates by property owners, indemnifying UNMEE from environmental and other liabilities in all 31 locations

Outputs

Service improvements

- Implementation of environmental protection measures at all locations vacated by the Mission, including collection and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste generated by the Mission in an environmentally friendly manner and the restoration of all sites to their original condition

Military and civilian personnel

- Repatriation of 242 military contingent personnel and 83 military observers
- Repatriation of contingent-owned equipment remaining in the Mission area as at 1 July 2008
- Administration of an average of 112 international staff, 136 national staff and 41 United Nations Volunteers
- Repatriation of 143 international staff and 60 United Nations Volunteers, and separation of 193 national staff

Facilities and infrastructure

- Maintenance of premises in 21 locations throughout the Mission area
- Restoration to the original condition and handover of 31 premises and sites
- Operation, maintenance and disposal of 13 United Nations-owned generators at 9 facilities

Ground transportation

- Operation, maintenance and disposal of 274 vehicles, including 6 armoured vehicles, and vehicle attachments in 4 locations

Air transportation

- Operation and maintenance of 2 fixed-wing and 3 rotary-wing aircraft

Communications

- Operation, maintenance and disposal of a satellite network consisting of 1 hub station and 16 very small aperture terminals (VSAT)
- Operation, maintenance and disposal of 12 telephone exchanges and 7 microwave links
- Operation, maintenance and disposal of a radio network consisting of 206 very high frequency (VHF) mobile (vehicle mount) radios, 14 VHF base station radios, 19 high frequency (HF) base stations radios, 224 hand-held VHF mobile radios, 12 VHF repeaters and 10 narrow-band digital radio systems to provide voice, fax, video and data communications at 21 locations

Information technology

- Support, maintenance and disposal of 47 servers, 342 desktop computers, 109 laptop computers, 126 printers and 50 digital senders at 21 locations
- Maintenance and operation of a disaster recovery and business continuity system, including 3 servers and 4 one-terabyte external drives at 2 locations until completion of the administrative liquidation of the Mission
- Support and maintenance of local area networks (LAN) and wide area networks (WAN) for 488 users at 21 locations
- Operation and maintenance of the wireless network for 148 users

Medical

- Operation and maintenance of one civilian level-I clinic for Mission personnel, and maintenance of land and air evacuation arrangements

Security

- Provision of security 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in the Mission area and close protection for senior Mission staff and visiting high-level officials
- Investigation of incidents/accidents involving United Nations personnel and property
- Mission-wide site security assessment, including residential surveys at 40 residences

Liquidation

- Disposition of approximately 16,400 non-expendable asset items with an inventory value of approximately $56.6 million and approximately 2,258,000 expendable asset items with an inventory value of approximately $13.1 million through transfer to the United Nations Logistics Base in Brindisi, Italy, and to other peacekeeping missions, donation to the host Governments, commercial disposal through sales and destruction of unusable items
- Reconciliation and closing of 4 bank accounts
- Settlement of vendor and supplier invoices and closure of 118 contracts

External factors

Host Governments will cooperate in the liquidation process, including through the provision of safe access to remote sites, export of United Nations-owned equipment and the granting of appropriate permissions for the sale or disposal of assets locally when required

Table 4
Human resources: support component

Civilian staff	International staff								National staff	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG-ASG	D-2-D-1	P-5-P-4	P-3 P-2	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal			
Conduct and Discipline Unit											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	**1**	1	—	**2**
Approved temporary positions 2008/09[a]	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	**1**	—	—	**1**
Approved posts and positions 2008/09	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	**2**	1	—	**3**
Proposed deployment											
As at 1 July 2008	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	**2**	—	—	**2**
As at 31 October 2008	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	**1**	—	—	**1**
1-31 January 2009	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	**—**	—	—	**—**
Security Section											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	1	2	15	1	—	**19**	4	—	**23**
Proposed deployment											
As at 1 July 2008	—	—	1	1	15	1	—	**18**	3	—	**21**
As at 31 October 2008	—	—	1	1	15	1	—	**18**	3	—	**21**
1-31 January 2009	—	—	1	1	15	1	—	**18**	3	—	**21**
Office of the Chief of Mission Support											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	1	2	1	7	2	—	**13**	49	9	**71**
Proposed deployment											
As at 1 July 2008	—	1	2	1	4	2	—	**10**	34	4	**48**
As at 31 October 2008	—	1	2	1	4	2	—	**10**	9	4	**23**
1-31 January 2009	—	1	2	1	4	1	—	**9**	4	3	**16**
Administrative Services											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	5	5	19	3	—	**32**	37	6	**75**
Proposed deployment											
As at 1 July 2008	—	—	4	5	18	3	—	**30**	30	7	**67**
As at 31 October 2008	—	—	3	4	16	1	—	**24**	26	5	**55**
1-31 January 2009	—	—	3	3	15	1	—	**22**	24	4	**50**
Integrated Support Services											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	—	9	9	43	8	—	**69**	115	46	**230**
Proposed deployment											
As at 1 July 2008	—	—	6	7	38	5	—	**56**	115	42	**213**
As at 31 October 2008	—	—	5	5	31	4	—	**45**	85	29	**159**
1-31 January 2009	—	—	4	3	30	2	—	**39**	56	17	**112**

Civilian staff	International staff								National staff	United Nations Volunteers	Total
	USG-ASG	D-2-D-1	P-5-P-4	P-3 P-2	Field Service	General Service	Security Service	Subtotal			
Subtotal											
Approved posts 2008/09	—	1	18	17	84	14	—	**134**	205	61	**401**
Approved temporary positions 2008/09[a]	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	**1**	—	—	**1**
Total approved posts and positions 2008/09	—	**1**	**18**	**17**	**85**	**14**	—	**135**	**206**	**61**	**402**
Proposed deployment											
As at 1 July 2008	—	1	14	14	76	11	—	**116**	182	53	**351**
As at 31 October 2008	—	1	12	11	66	8	—	**98**	123	38	**259**
1-31 January 2009	—	1	10	8	64	5	—	**88**	87	24	**199**

[a] Funded under general temporary assistance.

17. The proposed staffing requirements are predicated on the cooperation of the two host Governments in the administrative liquidation process and reflect the need to retain administrative, logistical and technical international and national staff with a view to completing the administrative liquidation of the Mission by 31 January 2009. The staffing requirements also take into account the need to accomplish the envisioned liquidation tasks in two countries simultaneously, in particular in Eritrea, where most of the Mission's assets are located.

18. The staffing proposals reflect the projected workload attributable to the recall, inspection and servicing of assets, including vehicles and information technology and communications equipment, in preparation for their shipment, write-off and disposal; the management of personnel during the drawdown period, including the separation or reassignment of international staff, career management counselling, separation of national staff and capacity-building training programmes for national staff; the return to the original condition and handover of premises and facilities to appropriate authorities and private owners; and the dismantling of military camps.

19. As shown in table 4 above, the proposed support component staffing establishment reflects the phased drawdown of support staff commensurate with the planned progress in the administrative liquidation activities, which are expected to be completed by 31 January 2009.

20. Upon the repatriation of all military and most substantive staff by 31 October 2008, the Mission will focus on the dismantling and restoration of the remaining military camps, premises and facilities, including Mission headquarters in Eritrea and Ethiopia, prior to their handover to appropriate authorities and owners; the disposal of all Mission assets through their shipment to other peacekeeping operations or the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for temporary storage, and in situ disposal of the remaining items; repatriation or reassignment to other peacekeeping missions of international staff and separation of national personnel; and the archiving of the Mission's official records.

21. The Mission's administrative liquidation team would comprise core administrative, technical and logistical support personnel responsible for the

administrative closing of the Mission and the completion of the liquidation tasks, including the closing of the Mission's logistics bases, the processing of vendor invoices and the closing of remaining contracts, the reconciliation and closing of bank accounts, the closing of the Mission's field accounts, and the processing of final staff payments and separations.

Conduct and Discipline Unit

22. In view of the completion of the repatriation of the Mission's military personnel and most of the substantive staff by 31 October 2008, the Senior Conduct and Discipline Officer (P-5) would remain in the Mission until 30 November 2008 in order to complete the closing of the Conduct and Discipline Unit office.

Security Section

23. During the period from 1 July 2008 to 31 January 2009, the staffing establishment of the Security Section would comprise 21 posts (18 international posts and 3 national General Service staff). The staffing requirements for this period take into account the continuing need to provide security for the Mission's civilian personnel, to safeguard its property and to ensure adequate security arrangements until the completion of administrative liquidation activities.

Office of the Chief of Mission Support

24. The Office of the Chief of Mission Support includes the immediate Office of the Chief of Mission Support, the Budget and Cost Control Unit, the Training Cell, the United Nations Volunteers Support Unit and the Administrative Liaison Office. Reporting directly to the Chief of Mission Support are the Sector Administrative Offices.

25. During the administrative liquidation of the Mission, until 31 January 2009, the staffing establishment of the Office would comprise 13 posts (9 international and 4 national staff) and 3 United Nations Volunteer positions, for a total of 16 posts and positions.

26. The staffing establishment of the Office of the Chief of Mission Support takes into account the workload related to the administrative liquidation of the Mission throughout the Mission area, continuing delivery of training programmes for national staff and administrative support to the United Nations Volunteers establishment. The staff of the Budget and Cost Control Unit would need to continue to monitor expenditures during the liquidation period in coordination with Mission support cost centres managers, as well as to prepare the performance report for the liquidation period.

Administrative Services

27. The Administrative Services comprise the Finance, Human Resources, Procurement and General Services Sections and Medical Services Unit.

28. The staffing requirements for the period from 1 to 31 July 2008 and the administrative liquidation period take into account the ongoing support to the mission's substantive activities and the workload related to the commencement in August 2008 of the drawdown of the Mission's substantive and administrative staff, in particular, additional tasks related to the separation or reassignment of

international staff and separation of national staff and the processing of final payments to staff and the increased volume of staff travel on separation or reassignment during the period.

29. From 31 October 2008 to 31 January 2009, the staffing establishment of Administrative Services would comprise 46 posts (22 international and 24 national staff) and 4 United Nations Volunteer positions, a total of 50 posts and positions. The staffing requirements for this period take into account the peak workload of administrative staff related to the separation or reassignment of international staff and separation of national staff, the conduct of exit interviews and the review and transfer of personnel files; the termination of all contracts and leases and the settlement of outstanding disputes with property owners and vendors; the processing of final payments to staff and vendors, the review of accounts payable and receivable, the liquidation of obligation balances and the reconciliation and closing of field accounts and bank accounts; the processing of outstanding claims and property survey cases, write-off of assets.

Integrated Support Services

30. The Integrated Support Services comprise the Office of the Chief, the Joint Logistics Operations Centre, the Contracts Management and the Contingent-owned Equipment Verification Unit, as well as the Building Management and Engineering, Supply, Transport, Movement Control, Communication Information Technology and Air Operations Sections.

31. As at 31 October 2008, the staffing establishment of the Integrated Support Services would comprise 130 posts (45 international staff and 85 national staff) and 29 United Nations Volunteer positions, a total of 159 posts and positions. The staffing requirements for this period take into account the additional tasks related to the dismantling and restoration of the military camps, premises and facilities prior to their handover to owners, the disposal of all mission assets through their shipment to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for temporary storage, and the in situ disposal of the remaining items, as well as the resulting increased requirements for logistical support planning and coordination activities.

32. From 31 October 2008 to 31 January 2009, the staffing establishment of the Integrated Support Services would comprise 95 posts (39 international staff and 56 national staff) and 17 United Nations Volunteer positions, a total of 112 posts and positions. The staffing requirements for this period take into account the peak workload of logistical support and technical staff related to the coordination and implementation of logistical support plans, the dismantling of the remaining military camps vacated by the repatriated military contingents personnel, environmental clean-up, the dismantling of the communications and information technology infrastructure, the collection, transportation and servicing of equipment, the recall, inspection and servicing of vehicles, the packing and shipping of supply stocks and non-expendable assets and equipment and the in situ disposal of assets not suitable for transfer to other peacekeeping missions.

II. Financial resources

A. Overall

(Thousands of United States dollars. Budget year is from 1 July to 30 June.)

Category	Expenditures (2007/08)	Appropriation (2008/09)	Revised cost estimates (2008/09)	Variance	
				Amount	Percentage
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)=(3)-(2)	(5)=(4)÷(2)
Military and police personnel					
Military observers	6 665.6	7 216.2	618.4	(6 597.8)	(91.4)
Military contingents	39 890.2	34 259.6	4 924.7	(29 334.9)	(85.6)
United Nations police	—	—	—	—	—
Formed police units	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**46 555.8**	**41 475.8**	**5 543.1**	**(35 932.7)**	**(86.6)**
Civilian personnel					
International staff	20 778.0	16 295.0	8 205.2	(8 089.8)	(49.6)
National staff	1 412.7	1 636.3	807.2	(829.1)	(50.7)
United Nations Volunteers	2 356.9	2 069.2	1 148.8	(920.4)	(44.5)
General temporary assistance	9.6	119.5	10.3	(109.2)	(91.4)
Subtotal	**24 557.2**	**20 120.0**	**10 171.5**	**(9 948.5)**	**(49.4)**
Operational costs					
Government-provided personnel	—	—	—	—	—
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—	—
Consultants	—	—	—	—	—
Official travel	537.9	676.7	227.6	(449.1)	(66.4)
Facilities and infrastructure	8 173.0	11 892.3	3 707.8	(8 184.5)	(68.8)
Ground transportation	1 999.6	2 883.9	651.3	(2 232.6)	(77.4)
Air transportation	9 219.0	9 070.5	3 969.6	(5 100.9)	(56.2)
Naval transportation	—	—	—	—	—
Communications	3 064.4	3 058.1	767.0	(2 291.1)	(74.9)
Information technology	1 528.4	953.5	268.7	(684.8)	(71.8)
Medical	827.9	1 044.4	91.2	(953.2)	(91.3)
Special equipment	469.8	501.6	26.0	(475.6)	(94.8)
Other supplies, services and equipment	9 152.2	8 690.6	11 592.6	2 902.0	33.4
Quick-impact projects	—	—	—	—	—
Subtotal	**34 972.2**	**38 771.6**	**21 301.8**	**(17 469.8)**	**(45.1)**
Gross requirements	**106 085.2**	**100 367.4**	**37 016.4**	**(63 351.0)**	**(63.1)**

Category	Expenditures (2007/08) (1)	Appropriation (2008/09) (2)	Revised cost estimates (2008/09) (3)	Variance Amount (4)=(3)-(2)	Variance Percentage (5)=(4)÷(2)
Staff assessment income	2 839.2	2 339.8	1 111.4	(1 228.4)	(52.5)
Net requirements	**103 246.0**	**98 027.6**	**35 905.0**	**(62 122.6)**	**(63.4)**
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)	—	—	—	—	—
Total requirements	**106 085.2**	**100 367.4**	**37 016.4**	**(63 351.0)**	**(63.1)**

B. Vacancy factors

33. The cost estimates for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 take into account the following vacancy factors:

(Percentage)

Category	Actual 2007/08	Budgeted 2008/09	Projected 2008/09
Military and police personnel			
Military observers	24.5	15.0	—
Military contingents	26.6	20.0	—
Civilian personnel			
International staff	17.4	35.0	10.0
National staff	8.8	10.0	—
United Nations Volunteers	9.1	10.0	5.0
Temporary positions[a]	100.0	—	—

[a] Funded under general temporary assistance.

34. The projected vacancy rates for the budget period take into account the actual incumbency of the authorized international and national Mission posts and reflect the anticipated attrition rates during the administrative liquidation period.

C. Contingent-owned equipment: major equipment and self-sustainment

35. Requirements for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 are based on standard reimbursement rates for major equipment (wet lease) and self-sustainment in the total amount of $584,700 as follows:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Estimated amount*
Major equipment	
Military contingents	370.1
Formed police units	—
Subtotal	**370.1**
Self-sustainment	
Facilities and infrastructure	113.6
Communications	55.4
Medical	19.6
Special equipment	26.0
Subtotal	**214.6**
Total	**584.7**

Mission factors	*Percentage*	*Effective date*	*Last review date*
A. Applicable to Mission area			
Extreme environmental condition factor	1.10	1 July 2004	1 July 2002
Intensified operational condition factor	3.80	1 July 2004	1 July 2002
Hostile action/forced abandonment factor	1.90	1 July 2004	1 July 2002
B. Applicable to home country			
Incremental transportation factor	0.25-3.50		

D. Training

36. The estimated resource requirements for training for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 are as follows:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Estimated amount*
Consultants	
Training consultants	—
Official travel	
Official travel, training	11.1
Other supplies, services and equipment	
Training fees, supplies and services	19.6
Total	**30.7**

37. The number of participants in the training programmes planned for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, compared with previous periods, is as follows:

(Number of participants)

	International			*National staff*			*Military personnel*		
	Actual 2007/08	*Planned 2008/09*	*Proposed 2008/09*	*Actual 2007/08*	*Planned 2008/09*	*Proposed 2008/09*	*Actual 2007/08*	*Planned 2008/09*	*Proposed 2008/09*
Internal	259	299	5	398	414	557	234	105	—
External[a]	43	31	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	**302**	**330**	**6**	**398**	**414**	**557**	**234**	**105**	**—**

[a] Includes the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, and outside the Mission area.

38. The training activities are designed to enhance substantive and technical competencies for a total of 563 staff members. The primary focus of the training programme is to contribute to the capacity-building of national staff in order to facilitate their employment prospects upon completion of the Mission's administrative liquidation, as well as to provide continuing refresher training to international staff in technical areas to facilitate their reassignment to other peacekeeping missions. Provision has been made in the present budget to increase national staff training programmes in the preparation of personal history profiles, the development of interviewing skills and training in the establishment of small enterprises in order to enhance national staff employment opportunities after the completion of the Mission's administrative liquidation.

E. Mine-detection and mine-clearing services

39. The estimated resource requirements for mine-detection and mine-clearing services for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 are as follows:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	*Estimated value*
Special equipment	
Mine-detection and mine-clearing equipment	—
Other supplies, services and equipment	
Mine-detection and mine-clearing services	1 488.6
Mine-detection and mine-clearing supplies	—
Total	**1 488.6**

40. The planned resources include requirements for the continuing humanitarian mine-clearing activities for the month of July 2008, as well as for the liquidation of the programme and the transfer of mine-clearing equipment out of the Mission area during the administrative liquidation period.

III. Analysis of variances[1]

Reference

The present section describes the single largest contributing factor of each resource variance according to specific standard options encompassed in the four standard categories listed below:

- **Mandate**: variances caused by changes in the scale or scope of the mandate, or changes in the expected accomplishments as driven by the mandate
- **External**: variances caused by parties or situations external to the United Nations
- **Cost parameters**: variances caused by United Nations regulations, rules and policies
- **Management**: variances caused by management actions to achieve planned results more effectively (e.g., by reprioritizing or adding certain outputs) or efficiently (e.g., by taking measures to reduce personnel or operational inputs while maintaining the same level of outputs) and/or from performance-related issues (e.g., by having underestimated the costs or quantities of inputs required to produce a certain level of outputs, or by delayed recruitment)

	Variance	
Military observers	($6,597.8)	(91.4%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

41. The variance under this heading is attributable to the repatriation of all military observers by 31 October 2008. The estimates take into account the repatriation of 83 military observers deployed in the Mission area as at 1 July 2008, as compared to provisions made in the initial budget for the authorized strength of 230 military observers for the 12-month period.

	Variance	
Military contingents	($29,334.9)	(85.6%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

42. The variance under this heading is attributable to the repatriation of the remaining military contingent personnel by 31 October 2008. The estimates take into account the repatriation of 242 contingent personnel deployed in the Mission

[1] Resource variance amounts are expressed in thousands of United States dollars. Analysis is provided for variances of at least plus or minus 5 per cent or $100,000.

area as at 1 July 2008, as compared to provisions made in the initial budget for the authorized strength of 1,470 contingent personnel for the 12-month period.

43. The reduced requirements are offset in part by increased requirements for the repatriation of contingent-owned equipment remaining in the Mission area as at 1 July 2008.

	Variance	
International staff	($8,089.8)	(49.6%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

44. The variance under this heading is attributable to reduced requirements for international staff costs (salaries, staff assessment, common staff costs, hazardous duty station allowance and mission subsistence allowance) owing to the proposed phased reduction of the Mission's international staffing establishment and subsequent administrative liquidation of the Mission. The estimates provide for the maintenance and phased repatriation of 142 international staff for the period from 1 July 2008 to 31 January 2009, as compared to provision made in the initial budget for 176 international staff, with the application of a 35 per cent delayed recruitment factor.

	Variance	
National staff	($829.1)	(50.7%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

45. The variance under this heading is attributable to reduced requirements for national staff costs (salaries, staff assessment, common staff costs and hazardous duty station allowance) owing to the phased reduction of the Mission's national staffing establishment and subsequent liquidation of the Mission. The estimates provide for the maintenance and phased separation of 193 national staff for the period from 1 July 2008 to 31 January 2009 as compared to provision made in the initial budget for 219 national staff, with the application of a 10 per cent delayed recruitment factor. The estimates are based on the established salary scales for national General Service staff (G-4, step 6) effective 1 March 2008 for national staff recruited in Eritrea and 1 January 2008 for staff recruited in Ethiopia.

	Variance	
United Nations Volunteers	($920.4)	(44.5%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

46. The variance under this heading is attributable to reduced requirements for United Nations Volunteers costs owing to the proposed reduction of the Mission's United Nations Volunteers establishment due to the termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation. The estimates provide for the maintenance and phased repatriation of 60 United Nations Volunteers for the period from 1 July 2008 to 31 January 2009 as compared to the provision made in the

initial budget for 68 United Nations Volunteers, with the application of a 10 per cent delayed deployment factor.

	Variance	
General temporary assistance	($109.2)	(91.4%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

47. The variance under this heading reflects actual requirements for an Administrative Assistant of the Conduct and Discipline Unit in view of the repatriation of the incumbent by 31 July 2008.

	Variance	
Official travel	($449.1)	(66.4%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

48. The variance under this heading is attributable to decreased requirements for official travel owing to the termination of the Mission's mandate and the completion of substantive activities by 31 October 2008, as well as to the reduced scope of training programmes outside the Mission area.

	Variance	
Facilities and infrastructure	($8,184.5)	(68.8%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

49. The variance under this heading is mainly attributable to lower projected consumption of generator fuel, reduced requirements for the reimbursement of troop-contributing Governments for self-sustainment costs in view of the repatriation of all military contingent personnel by 31 October 2008, and lower requirements for commercially provided security services and for the rental of premises and their maintenance owing to the handover of premises to the appropriate authorities and private owners.

50. Provision is made for the maintenance of premises in 21 locations throughout the Mission, as well as the restoration, clean-up and handover of 31 premises and sites in the Mission area to appropriate authorities and private owners.

	Variance	
Ground transportation	($2,232.6)	(77.4%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

51. The variance under this heading is attributable to reduced requirements for diesel fuel for vehicles and spare parts, offset in part by increased requirements for the rental of heavy engineering equipment (2 bulldozers and 2 loaders) and 8 heavy trucks in connection with the dismantling of military camps and the restoration of campsites to their original condition, as well as the destruction of written-off assets.

52. Provision is made for the operation and maintenance of 274 vehicles, including 6 armoured vehicles and vehicle attachments in 4 locations.

	Variance	
Air transportation	($5,100.9)	(56.2%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

53. The variance under this heading is attributable primarily to reduced requirements for the rental and operation of 2 fixed-wing aircraft and 3 helicopters, resulting from lower flight hours for the period from 1 July 2008 to 31 January 2009 compared to provisions for the full 12-month period made in the initial 2008/09 budget.

	Variance	
Communications	($2,291.1)	(74.9%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

54. The variance under this heading is attributable to reduced requirements for the reimbursement of troop-contributing Governments for self-sustainment costs in view of the full repatriation of military contingent personnel by 31 October 2008, lower requirements for commercial communications and communications spare parts, as well as public information and communications support services owing to the termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation.

55. Provision is made for the operation and maintenance of a satellite network consisting of: (a) 1 hub station and 16 VSATs; (b) 12 telephone exchanges and 7 microwave links; and (c) a radio network consisting of 206 VHF mobile (vehicle mount) radios, 14 VHF base station radios, 19 HF base station radios, 224 hand-held VHF mobile radios, 12 VHF repeaters and 10 narrow-band digital radio systems to provide voice, fax, video and data communications in 18 locations.

	Variance	
Information technology	($684.8)	(71.8%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

56. The variance under this heading is attributable to reduced requirements for information technology services, licences and fees, and spare parts owing to the termination of the Mission's mandate and the subsequent liquidation of the Mission.

57. Provision is made for: (a) the maintenance of 47 servers, 342 desktop computers, 109 laptop computers, 126 printers and 50 digital senders in 18 locations; (b) the maintenance and operation of a disaster recovery and business continuity system, including 3 servers and 4 one-terabyte external drives in 2 locations; and (c) support and maintenance of LAN and WAN for 488 users in 18 locations.

Medical	Variance	
	($953.2)	(91.3%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

58. The variance under this heading is attributable to reduced requirements for the reimbursement of troop-contributing Governments for self-sustainment costs in view of the full repatriation of military contingent personnel by 31 October 2008, combined with reduced requirements for medical services and supplies owing to the termination of the Mission's mandate and subsequent liquidation of the Mission.

Special equipment	Variance	
	($475.6)	(94.8%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

59. The variance under this heading is attributable to reduced requirements for the reimbursement of troop-contributing Governments for self-sustainment costs in view of the full repatriation of military contingent personnel by 31 October 2008.

Other supplies, services and equipment	Variance	
	($2,902.0)	(33.4%)

- **Mandate: termination of the Mission's mandate and its subsequent administrative liquidation**

60. The variance under this heading is attributable mainly to increased requirements for the transportation of the United Nations-owned equipment to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, for future use, taking into account equipment planned for transfer to other peacekeeping missions, which would bear the transportation costs, and the purchase of 110 sea containers for transporting equipment, offset by reduced requirements for mine detection and mine clearing services owing to the termination of the Mission's mandate and administrative liquidation of the Mission.

IV. Actions to be taken by the General Assembly

61. **The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of the Mission are:**

(a) **To reduce the appropriation of $100,367,400 approved by the General Assembly under the terms of its resolution 62/259 for the maintenance of the Mission for the 12-month period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 to the amount of $37,016,400;**

(b) **To reduce the amount of staff assessment income of $2,339,800 approved by the General Assembly under the terms of its resolution 62/259 for the maintenance of the Mission for the 12-month period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 to the amount of $1,111,400;**

(c) **Taking into account the amount of $8,750,833 already assessed on Member States under the terms of General Assembly resolution 62/259 for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 to 31 July 2008, to assess the additional amount of $28,265,567 for the administrative liquidation of the Mission for the period from 1 August 2008 to 31 January 2009.**

V. Summary of follow-up action taken to implement the decisions and requests of the General Assembly in its resolution 61/276 and requests and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions endorsed by the Assembly, and of the United Nations Board of Auditors

A. General Assembly

(Resolution 61/276)

Decisions and requests to the Secretary-General	*Action taken to implement decisions and requests*
Section II: budgeting and budget presentation	
When submitting future budget proposals and performance reports, include information on the most significant management decisions relating to the mission's budget and its implementation, including those related to operational costs (para. 2).	Implemented in the context of the present revised budget.
Budget submissions should reflect management improvements and efficiency gains to be achieved and present future strategies in that regard (para. 4).	The present revised budget provides information on the administrative liquidation of the Mission.
Take further steps towards improving budget assumptions and forecasts and report thereon to the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed sixty-second session (para. 5).	The present report includes resource planning assumptions in section I.B.
Improve control over obligations due to the significant increase in the cancellation of prior-period obligations (para. 6).	UNMEE continues to carry out regular and systematic monthly reviews of all outstanding obligations with the respective cost centre managers and responsible certifying officers to ensure that only valid financial commitments are retained in the accounts. Moreover, cost centre managers continue to provide a validity status report for each outstanding obligation on a monthly basis to the Finance Section for continuous monitoring. Due to the liquidation process, the Mission is placing increased emphasis on the timely review and closing of obligations.

Decisions and requests to the Secretary-General	*Action taken to implement decisions and requests*
Section III: results-based budgeting	
Integrate operational, logistical and financial aspects fully in the planning phase of peacekeeping operations by linking results-based budgeting to the mandate implementation plans of peacekeeping operations (para. 2).	In view of the termination of the Mission's mandate on 31 July 2008, the present revised budget includes only the support component frameworks.
Section VII: staffing, recruitment and vacancy rates	
Make greater use of national staff, as appropriate, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission and its mandate (para. 3).	During the administrative liquidation period, the Mission will rely extensively on national staff in order to complete liquidation tasks by 31 January 2009.
Ensure that vacant posts are filled expeditiously (para. 4).	In view of the termination of the Mission's mandate on 31 July 2008, its proposed staffing establishment reflects the drawdown of staff based on the actual incumbencies as at 30 June 2008. In view of the continuing restrictions on the Mission's operations in Eritrea and the relocation of military personnel from Eritrea during the financial period 2007/08, the Mission curtailed the recruitment of staff after February 2008.
Review the staffing structure of missions on an ongoing basis, bearing in mind, in particular, the Mission's mandate and concept of operations, and reflect this in budget proposals, including full justification of any additional posts proposed (para. 5).	Justification of UNMEE's proposed staffing establishment reflects staffing requirements during the administrative liquidation period.
Section IX: training	
Provide professional development opportunities for national staff and fully include them in all relevant training programmes (para. 2).	Provision has been made in the present report to increase national staff training programmes in the preparation of personal history profiles, the development of interviewing skills and training in the establishment of small enterprises in order to enhance national staff employment opportunities after the completion of the Mission's administrative liquidation.
Section XIII: air operations	
When reviewing their transportation requirements, missions must take into account means that are efficient, cost-effective and responsive to their operational needs and that ensure the safety of their personnel and take fully into account the unique mandate, complexities, specificities and operational conditions of each mission (para. 4).	The proposed revised budget includes air transportation requirements for the administrative liquidation period.

Decisions and requests to the Secretary-General	*Action taken to implement decisions and requests*
Section XVIII: quick-impact projects	
Quick-impact projects should be implemented with minimal or no overhead charges in order to ensure that the maximum amount is spent for the direct benefit of the local population (para. 5).	Not applicable.
Funding for quick-impact projects for the third year of a mission and beyond may be requested if there is a requirement for confidence-building activities, in which case a needs assessment should be conducted (para. 6).	Not applicable.
Coordination with humanitarian and development partners should be made in order to avoid duplication and overlap of activities between missions and humanitarian and development partners in the field (para. 7).	Not applicable.
Mission budgets allocated for quick-impact projects should not be used to finance humanitarian and development activities already being carried out by United Nations agencies or other international organizations (para. 8).	Not applicable.
Section XX: regional coordination	
Develop and implement regional coordination plans aligned to the objectives of missions, keeping in mind the specific mandate of each mission (para. 2).	Not applicable.
Section XXI: partnerships, country team coordination and integrated missions	
Provide, in the context of the budget submissions of complex integrated peacekeeping missions, a clear description of the role and responsibility of missions vis-à-vis integrated mission partners as well as the strategies of the missions for enhancing coordination and collaboration with United Nations country teams in order to achieve better results under relevant components (para. 2).	Not applicable.

B. Advisory Committee

(A/62/781/Add.17)

Request	*Response*
The Advisory Committee expects that the outstanding [8 death and disability] claims will be settled expeditiously (para. 8).	Of the outstanding 8 death and disability claims, 1 claim was settled and 6 were closed, leaving 1 pending case. As at 31 October 2008, an additional 2 claims had been received, for a total of 3 outstanding death and disability claims.
With regard to the reimbursement of costs related to the temporarily relocated troops and equipment, consultations were ongoing within the Secretariat to determine the full extent of the Organization's legal obligations in respect of these costs. The Advisory Committee expects that this matter will be clarified in order to enable the settlement of related reimbursements to Member States without delay (para. 19).	Pursuant to the exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2008/368 dated 5 June 2008 and S/2008/427 dated 30 June 2008, respectively), the temporarily relocated military contingent personnel are considered as repatriated effective 5 June 2008. Reimbursement to the countries contributing troops to UNMEE for the temporarily relocated military contingent personnel was made on 29 September 2008.
The Advisory Committee notes that rations continue to be supplied by air from the main logistics base of UNMEE in Asmara for distribution to the military contingents. The Committee was informed that the Mission had recently raised the matter of establishing a distribution base in Ethiopia with the rations contractor. There was, however, no enthusiasm on the part of the contractor in view of the small numbers involved and the uncertainty as to the future duration of the Mission. This has added to the Mission's cost and workload, as rations previously delivered by truck in Eritrea have to be flown to northern Ethiopia, via Addis Ababa, for distribution to the contingents. The Advisory Committee encourages the Mission to continue to explore ways of supplying rations in a timely and cost-effective manner (para. 24).	The supply of rations in Ethiopia ceased in the 2007/08 period with the relocation of military contingents from Eritrea to their home countries and was subsequently provided in Ethiopia through local sources until the repatriation of all contingent personnel by 31 October 2008.

Request	*Response*
Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the Mission maintains engineering assets that have become depreciated, but are still functional, and that it would not be economical to transfer these assets to another Mission or return them to the United Nations Logistics Base in Brindisi, Italy. The Advisory Committee notes that the Mission continues to maintain and use these assets. It stresses, in this connection, that the maintenance cost of old and/or outdated equipment should not exceed the cost of replacement. The Committee was also informed of high inventories of vehicles in Eritrea, which were beyond their useful life, and of the fact that the local authorities have not granted permission to UNMEE to dispose of or to sell these vehicles locally. The Advisory Committee expects that the Mission will develop an asset disposal plan and present such a plan in the next budget submission (paras. 25 and 26).	In view of the termination of the Mission's mandate on 31 July 2008, UNMEE maintains assets that are actually in use. The asset disposal plan was prepared and is being implemented during the liquidation process.

C. Board of Auditors

(A/62/5 (Vol. II), chap. II)

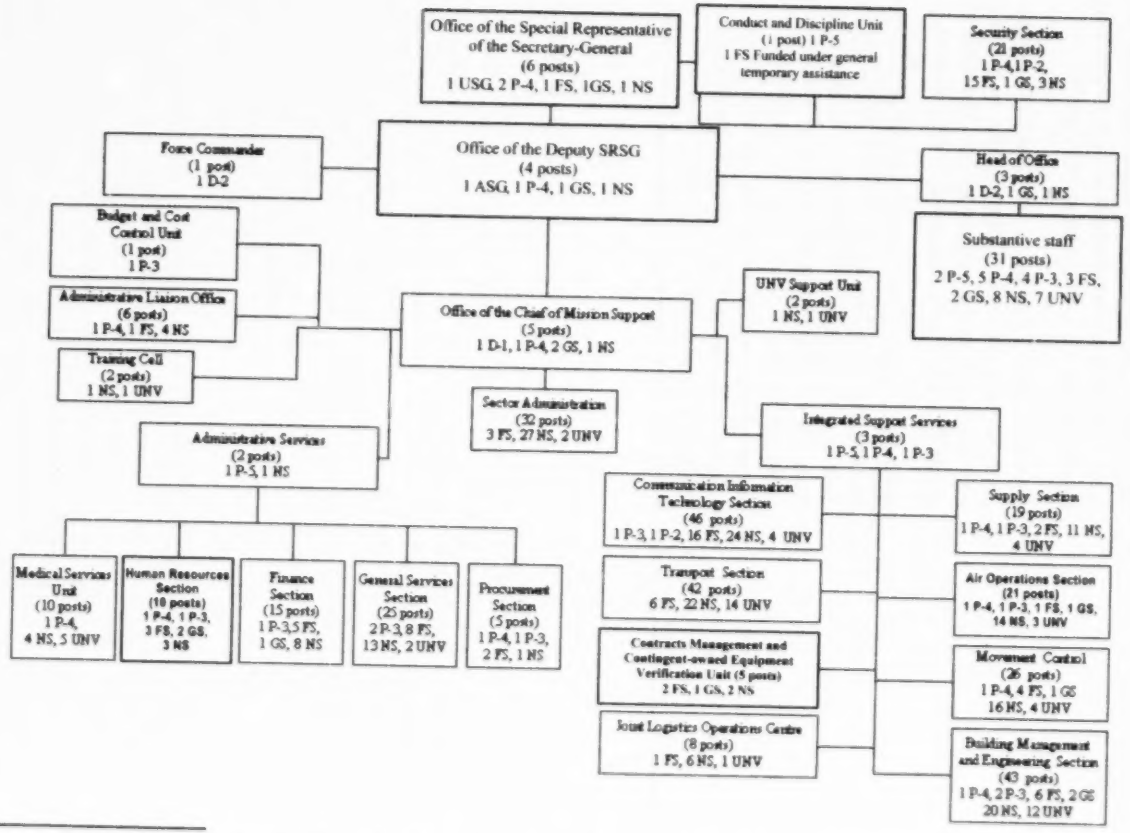
Recommendation	*Implementation*
At UNMEE 14 miscellaneous obligating documents totaling $0.55 million were without specific payees and therefore the parties contracted could not be established. The Board recommends that UNMEE strictly adhere to the requirements of rule 105.9 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations in relation to unliquidated obligations, and improve their internal control procedures (paras. 43 (b) and 44).	The Mission ensures strict compliance with rule 105.9 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations. As an internal control mechanism, the Mission introduced measures to ensure that invoices to be settled against miscellaneous obligations are certified by the concerned cost centre managers before disbursements are made.
As an alternative, the Mission was considering the transfer of some items to other missions or to the United Nations Logistics Base. The Board recommends that the Administration expedite the review of non-expendable property at all missions to ascertain the realistic quantities that should be held and take appropriate measures to redeploy surplus assets to other missions in need of them or to the Logistics Base, or to dispose of them (paras. 120 and 123).	UNMEE has 16,400 items of non-expendable assets in its inventory. Approximately 25 per cent of these assets are planned for transfer to the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur and the United Nations Mission in the Sudan. The commercial proposal for the shipment of these assets to the two missions was finalized on 3 November 2008, and a plan has been developed to complete the shipment out of UNMEE to the respective missions by the end of January 2009.

Recommendation	*Implementation*
	Over 300 items have been under consideration for donation to the Government of Ethiopia, subject to approval by the General Assembly. Approximately 800 items have been requested by the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes present in Eritrea and Ethiopia and these requests are also under consideration. Approximately 2,000 items have been considered for donation to the African Union Mission in Somalia based on a request from the African Union. The donation of these assets is subject to the approval by the General Assembly. Significant quantities of assets remain in the temporary security zone. Following the request of the Government of Eritrea to remove all United Nations-owned equipment from the country, the Mission entered into commercial contracts for the retrieval of these assets from the temporary security zone, as well as from Asmara, the capital of Eritrea, for subsequent shipment to the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy.

Annex

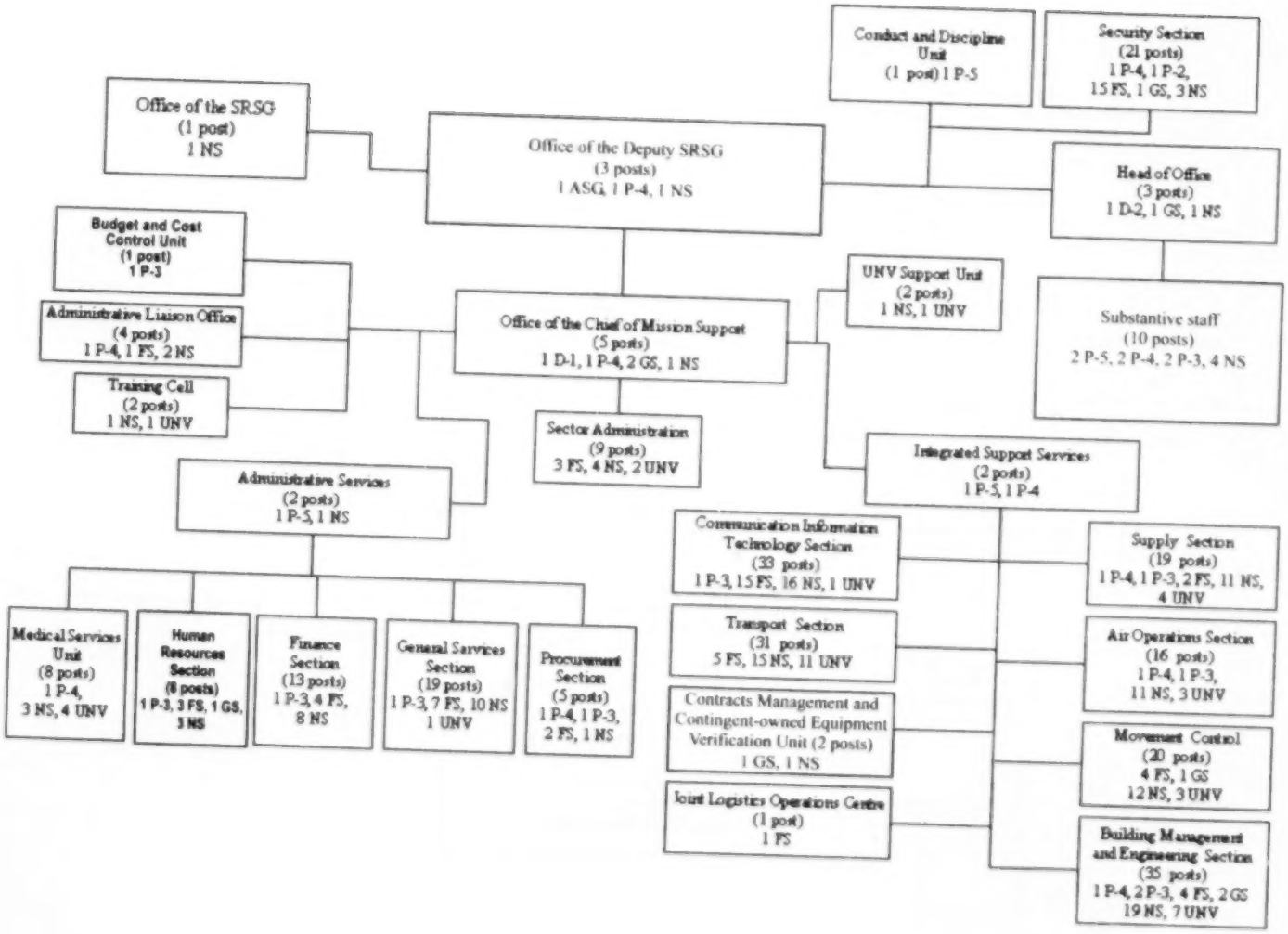
Organization charts

A. As at 1 July 2008



Abbreviations: USG, Under-Secretary-General; ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; SRSG, Special Representative of the Secretary-General; P, Professional; FS, Field Service; GS, General Service; NS, National Staff; UNV, United Nations Volunteers.

B. As at 31 October 2008



C. As at 1 January 2009